

## Friendship With God: The Abraham Journey

The Call to Walk With God

Genesis 12:1–9

**Introduction:** Today, family, we begin a new journey together: A sermon series I have titled: *“Friendship With God: The Abraham Journey (In Genesis).”*

And there is no better place to start than where Abraham started—with the call of God. James 2:23 will eventually call Abraham “the friend of God,” but that friendship did not begin with Abraham climbing up to God. It began with God coming down in grace to Abraham. That is always where a real walk with God begins.

*Faith begins with trusting God enough to follow Him.* We’ll see this in four movements.

### I. A revealed word: (vv. 1–3)

*“Now the LORD said to Abram...”*

#### A. Faith begins when God speaks

- Romans 10:17
- Acts 7
- Joshua 24

Faith does not begin with feelings—it begins with God’s Word.

**Adrian Rogers was right when he said** that the root of biblical faith is divine revelation. *God speaks, and faith responds*

#### B. Faith begins by trusting God enough to follow Him

- Genesis 12:1–3
- Matthew 28
- 1. Abraham did not start as a saint in search of God; *he started as a sinner interrupted by God.*
  - a. First the command then obedience, then the blessings
  - b. Lit. If Abram would get up and go – “God would make Him a blessing!”
- 2. When God blesses your life, your home, your testimony, and your church, it is never merely for comfort.

*God blesses His people so they can be a blessing.*

### II. A relinquished world: (vv. 4–5)

*“So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.”*

#### A. A definition of faith - Hebrews 11:8

- He did not know where, but he knew Who.
- And when you know Who, you can walk without knowing where. Faith obeys even when it does not know the full plan.

#### B. The direction of faith -

1. Faith is moving because God has spoken.
2. The leaving, the moving was a prerequisite for the blessing...

Following God always requires leaving something behind.

### III. A raised worship: (vv. 6–8)

*“So he built there an altar to the LORD.”*

#### A. Abram’s arrival *“At that time the Canaanites were in the land.”*

1. Obedience does not exempt the believer from opposition or testing.
2. The promise came in the very place where the obstacles were visible.

#### B. Abram’s altar - Faith worships God even before the victory comes.

### IV. A repeated walk: (v. 9)

*“And Abram journeyed on...”*

#### A. Faith is a journey, not a destination –

1. At Shechem, God appeared to Abram to confirm His promise and to reward Abram's faith: *To your offspring I will give this land* (12:7).
2. But it would be given to his descendants, not to him. (Gen. 12:4–9)

The Christian life is not a single decision preserved in amber; it is a life of moving with God one step at a time. (2 Cor. 5:7)

Walking with God happens one step of obedience at a time.

#### Closing Questions

- Has God given you a word you need to obey?
- Is there a world you need to leave behind?
- Are there altars of worship you need to rebuild?
- Are you willing to take the next step in the repeated walk of faith?

**When God says go, faith says yes.**

*That is where the walk begins. That is where friendship grows.*